

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AID-20 CEQ-02 CIAE-00 COA-02

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 EPA-04 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSF-04

NSC-07 NSAE-00 PM-07 RSC-01 SCI-06 SS-20 SPC-03

FEA-02 NEA-10 PA-04 PRS-01 USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01

DOT-00 HEW-08 INT-08 HUD-02 AEC-11 AECE-00 DRC-01

OIC-04 /218 W

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P R 290808Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 918

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, TECH, NA, JA

SUBJECT: CCMS: GEOTHERMAL ENERGY

REF: A) TOKYO 3144, B) STATE 54182, C) STATE 54181

SUMMARY: IN RESPONSE TO PROPOSAL FOR GEOTHERMAL ENERGY VISIT PRESENTED BY CHARGE, MIYAZAKI, DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS BUREAU, CONVEYED SOME OPTIMISM THAT GOJ MIGHT AGREE TO VISIT SUBJECT TO CERTAIN CONDITIONS DESIGNED TO DISSOCIATE VISIT FROM CCMS. EMBASSY DEFERRED PRESENTATION OF BROADER PROPOSAL FOR CCMS COOPERATION FOR TIME BEING, IN ORDER TO IMPROVE CHANCE OF ACCEPTANCE OF GEOTHERMAL VISIT. END SUMMARY.

1. CHARGE, ACCOMPANIED BY SCICOUNS, CALLED ON HIROMICHI MIYAZAKI, DIRECTOR GENERAL, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS BUREAU, FOREIGN OFFICE, TO PRESENT TALKING PAPER REQUESTING JAPANESE AGREEMENT TO GEOTHERMAL ENERGY
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VISIT DESCRIBED IN REF (B), SINCE HIGH-LEVEL APPROACH DEEMED ONLY WAY

LIKELY TO ACHIEVE AFFIRMATIVE RESULTS. EMBASSY ALSO CONCLUDED THAT CHANCE OF ACCEPTANCE OF VISIT WOULD BE ENHANCED BY SEPARATING THIS REQUEST FROM PROPOSALS FOR BROADER GOJ COOPERATION WITH CCMS PUT FORWARD IN REF (C). CHARGE INFORMED MIYAZAKI THAT SUCH PROPOSALS WILL BE SUBJECT OF ANOTHER APPROACH IN NEAR FUTURE.

2. MIYAZAKI SAID THERE

WERE TWO POSSIBILITIES FOR CONSIDERING REQUEST FOR GEOTHERMAL ENERGY VISIT; ONE, AS PART OF OVERALL QUESTION OF GOJ COOPERATION WITH CCMS. HE INDICATED THIS WOULD REQUIRE CAREFUL STUDY BY FONOFF OF CCMS RELATION TO NATO, ETC., AND WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE TIME-CONSUMING. OTHER WAS AS SEPARATE MATTER, WHICH HE FELT OFFERED SOME POSSIBILITY FOR SPECIAL TREATMENT. MIYAZAKI, OBSERVING THAT THERE WAS NO QUESTION AS TO TECHNICAL VALUE OF MULTILATERAL COOPERATION IN AREAS COVERED BY CCMS, THEN REVIEWED BASIS FOR FONOFF CONCERN WITH NATO ASSOCIATION OF CCMS. HE REFERRED, AS HAS WATANABE IN PAST, TO DIET SENSITIVITIES TO MILITARY ACTIVITIES, AND, BY WAY OF EXAMPLE, REPEATED ACCOUNT OF DIET CRITICISM OF GOJ PARTICIPATION IN A MEETING CONCERNING USE OF NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES FOR CONSTRUCTION OF KRA ISTHMUS CANAL (EMBASSY HAD ALREADY MADE CLEAR OF FONOFF THAT MEETING IN QUESTION WAS NOT EVEN GOVERNMENTAL, MUCH LESS CCMS, ACTIVITY). MIYAZAKI ALSO OBSERVED THAT, AS VICE-CHAIRMAN OF OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE, HE HAD TOLD US REPS THAT CONDUCT OF MULTILATERAL ENVIRONMENTAL COOPERATION UNDER NATO UMBRELLA WOULD CREATE PROBLEMS FOR GOJ, AND THAT GOJ WOULD FAR PREFER OECD FRAMEWORK FOR SUCH COOPERATION.

3. DESPITE THESE PROBLEMS, MIYAZAKI OFFERED SOME ENCOURAGEMENT THAT IMMEDIATE PROBLEM OF GEOTHERMAL VISIT COULD BE ACCOMMODATED. AFTER FLOATING IDEA, WHICH CHARGE DISMISSED, THAT VISIT BY US EXPERTS ALONE MIGHT FILL NEED, MIYAZAKI INDICATED THAT SOME FORMULA THAT INVOLVED VISIT BY INDIVIDUALS AS EXPERTS, WITHOUT NATO HAT, MIGHT BE APPLICABLE TO THIS VISIT. HE INDICATED THAT THIS WOULD REQUIRE FURTHER STUDY, BUT APPRECIATED NEED FOR PROMPT ANSWER, AND UNDERTOOK TO PROVIDE IT. EMBASSY INDICATED CONFIDENCE THAT REASONABLE CONDITIONS REGARDING VISIT REQUESTED BY GOJ COULD BE ACCOMMODATED, AND SUGGESTED THAT PARTICIPATION IN PROJECT OF OTHER NON-NATO MEMBERS INCLUDING MEXICO SHOULD BE AFFIRMATIVE ELEMENT IN GOJ CONSIDERATION.

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4. IN SEPARATE CONVERSATION WITH CHARGE, OKAWARA, DIRECTOR-GENERAL, AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU, DISPLAYED FAMILIARITY WITH CCMS PROBLEM AND EXPRESSED VIEWS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF MIYAZAKI ON POLITICAL PROBLEM PRESENTED BY COOPERATION WITH NATO ACTIVITY.

5. WATANABE, ALSO PRESENT, INQUIRED AS TO WHO WOULD COVER EXPENSES IF GROUP VISITED JAPAN. SCICONS EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING THAT PARTICIPANTS WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR OWN EXPENSES. FACT THAT

FONOFF IS WORRYING ABOUT FINANCES IS PROBABLY ENCOURAGING SIGN.
FONOFF RESPONSE WILL BE FORWARDED WHEN RECEIVED.
SHOESMITH

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